

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the applications:

Listing of Claims:

1-61 (canceled)

62. (currently amended) A protein comprising

(a) the extracellular region a human tumor necrosis factor (TNF) binding soluble fragment of an insoluble human tumor necrosis factor (TNF) receptor, wherein the insoluble human TNF receptor (i) specifically binds human TNF, (ii) has an apparent molecular weight of about 75 kilodaltons on a non-reducing SDS-polyacrylamide gel, ~~and~~ (iii) comprises the amino acid sequence LPAQVAFXPYAPEGSTC (SEQ ID NO: 10), and (iv) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence obtainable from a cDNA library made from HL60 cell extracts; and

(b) all of the domains of the constant region of a human immunoglobulin IgG1 heavy chain other than the first domain of said constant region;
wherein said protein specifically binds human TNF.

63-101. (canceled)

102. (previously presented) The protein of claim 62, wherein the soluble fragment comprises the peptides LCAP (SEQ ID NO:12) and VFCT (SEQ ID NO:8).

103-124. (canceled)

125. (currently amended) The protein of claim 62 ~~106~~, wherein the protein is purified.

126. (previously presented) The protein of claim 62 ~~106~~, wherein the protein is produced by CHO cells.

127. (currently amended) The protein of claim 62 ~~106~~, wherein the protein consists of (a) ~~the soluble fragment~~ the extracellular region of the insoluble human TNF receptor and (b) all of the domains of the constant region of the human IgG1 heavy chain other than the first domain of the constant region.

128-131. (canceled)

132. (currently amended) The protein of claim ~~[[107]]~~ 62, 126, or 127, wherein said domains of the constant region of the human immunoglobulin heavy chain consist essentially of the immunoglobulin amino acid sequence encoded by pCD4Hy1 vector (deposited at Deutschen Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (DSMZ) in Braunschweig, FRG under No. DSM 5314) ~~or by pCD4 Hy3 vector (deposited at Deutschen Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (DSMZ) in Braunschweig, FRG under No. DSM 5523).~~

133-136. (canceled)

137. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the recombinant protein of claim ~~[[105]]~~ 62, 125, 126 or 127 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier material.

138. (canceled)

139. (previously presented) A method of binding human TNF *in vivo* comprising the step of administering to a subject the pharmaceutical composition of claim 137.

140. (currently amended) A protein comprising
(a) the extracellular region ~~a human tumor necrosis factor (TNF) binding soluble fragment~~ of the human p75 TNF receptor amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA

insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC on October 17, 2006 under accession number PTA 7942; and

(b) all of the domains of the constant region of a human immunoglobulin IgG1 heavy chain other than the first domain of said constant region;
wherein said protein specifically binds human TNF.

141. (currently amended) The protein of claim 140 consisting of (a) the soluble fragment extracellular region of said amino acid sequence, and (b) all the domains of the constant region of the human immunoglobulin IgG1 heavy chain other than the first domain of said constant region.

142. (currently amended) The protein of claim 140
wherein the protein is expressed by a CHO ~~mammalian host~~ cell.

143-144. (canceled)